

February 6, 1958

Dr. N. A. Mitchison
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Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear Avrion:

Welcome again to the United States. Per your instructions I am not sending a copy of this letter to Edinburgh.

I just want to urge you if possible not to do anything irreversible about Harvard until we have had a chance to discuss some other schemes. There are a couple which if they worked out to expectations might very well interest you. They are a bit too complicated at the moment to go into now but I hope we will have a good chance to discuss them at the time of the symposium, which will be just about right in terms of their maturity.

While in Australia I actually had a chance to embark on a little flier in somatic cells myself having to do with the number of species of antibody produced by single cells. Somewhat surprisingly every single cell from lymph node suspensions after secondary response proved to produce only one of two alternative antibodies, but the results are still rather thin. I hope to have a good chance to talk over the whole state of that problem with you.

With all best regards,

As ever,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Medical Genetics

JL/ew